

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND  
PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS,  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,  
BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE  
AND DISCIPLINE

Vs.

No. C91-043

William Q. Sturner, M.D.

CONSENT ORDER

Pursuant to Section 5-37-5.2 of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island, 1956, as Amended, a complaint was filed with the Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline (hereinafter referred to as "Board") charging William Q. Sturner, M.D., Respondent, with violation of Section 5-37-5.1 of the General laws of the State of Rhode Island, 1956, as Amended. An investigation was conducted by Investigating Committee I, so called, of the Board.

The Investigating Committee reported to the Board, submitted its evaluations and recommended that a Consent Order as proposed by them be submitted to the Respondent for acceptance and signature. The Board authorized the Investigating Committee to proceed accordingly.

The following constitutes the Investigating Committee's findings of fact with respect to the professional performance of the Respondent:

1. Respondent is a physician licensed under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Rhode Island.
2. Respondent, for several years prior to June 7, 1991, failed to supervise adequately Medical Examiner Agents (Dieners) with respect to certain forensic autopsies concerning which Dr. Sturner was the responsible pathologist of record.

The parties agree as follows:

- (1) Respondent is a physician licensed and doing business under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Rhode Island, allopathic license number 4750. Respondent's mailing

address is 557 Fruit Hill Avenue, North Providence, Rhode Island 02911.

(2) Respondent admits to the jurisdiction of the Board and hereby agrees to remain under the jurisdiction of the Board.

(3) Respondent has read this Consent Order and understands that it is a proposal of Investigating Committee I of the Board and is subject to the final approval of the Board. This Consent Order is not binding on Respondent or the Board until final ratification by the Board.

(4) Respondent hereby acknowledges and waives:

a) The right to appear personally or by counsel or both before the Board;

b) The right to produce witnesses and evidence in his behalf at a hearing;

c) The right to cross-examine witnesses;

d) The right to have subpoenas issued by the Board;

e) The right to further procedural steps except for those specifically contained herein;

f) Any and all rights of appeal of this Consent Order;

g) Any objection to the fact that this Consent Order will be presented to the Board for consideration and review;

h) Any objection to the fact that it will be necessary for the Board to become acquainted with all evidence pertaining to this matter in order to review adequately this Consent Order;

i) Any objection to the fact that potential bias against the Respondent may occur as a result of the presentation of this Consent Order.

(5) If the Consent Order is not accepted by the Respondent, the Investigating Committee shall present its evaluations and recommendations to the Board with respect to any and all allegations of any and all acts of unprofessional

conduct. If the Board, after review of the Investigating Committee's evaluations, findings and recommendations, determines to take further action, then a specification of charges of unprofessional conduct shall be proposed by the Investigating Committee, a copy of said charges shall be served upon the Respondent together with notice of the hearing thereon, and a hearing with respect to said charges will be scheduled before a hearing committee of the Board. These matters shall be, and shall proceed to hearing in accordance with Sections 5-37-5.2, 5-37-5.3 and 5-37-5.4 of the General Laws of Rhode Island, 1956 and Amended and action shall be taken thereafter as provided for in Title 5, Chapter 37 of said General Laws.

(6) In the event that the Respondent accepts this Consent Order and the Board also accepts and ratifies it, the Board will not initiate new disciplinary proceedings with respect to those aspects and areas of the professional conduct of the Respondent which it has investigated and reviewed up to the time of the entry of this Consent Order. The Board, however, retains jurisdiction and reserves unto itself the right to initiate disciplinary proceedings with respect to any new complaints or evidence of alleged unprofessional conduct and any new complaints or new information regarding any aspects or areas of alleged unprofessional conduct which it has not heretofore investigated and reviewed, regardless of whether or not any aforesaid conduct occurred at a time prior to the entry of this Consent Order.

(7) Acceptance of this Consent Order constitutes an admission by the Respondent of the facts set forth herein.

(8) This Consent Order shall become part of the public record of this proceeding once it is accepted by all parties and accepted by the Board. It shall be published as the Board, in the exercise of its discretion, shall determine.

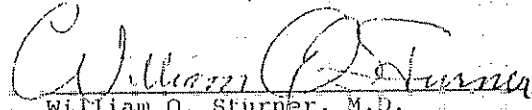
(9) Failure to comply with this Consent Order, when

signed and accepted, shall subject the Respondent to further disciplinary action.

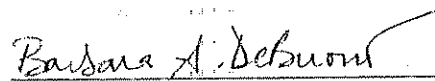
(10) Respondent voluntarily accepts the Boards' finding of unprofessional conduct and the sanction of a reprimand, as provided in Section 5-37-6.3 of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island, 1956, as Amended.

(11) Respondent agrees to pay an Administrative Fee of Two Thousand Five Hundred (\$2,500) Dollars within sixty days of acceptance of this Consent Order by the Board, as provided for in Section 5-37-6.3 of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island, 1956, as Amended.

Signed this 6th day of December 1991

  
William Q. Sturner, M.D.

Ratified by the Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline at a meeting held on December 11, 1991.

  
Barbara A. DeBuono, M.D., M.P.H.  
Chairperson  
Board of Medical Licensure and  
Discipline